Congressman Childers Announces 2010 Congressional Art Competition Winner

May 17, 2010

Washington, DC – Congressman Travis Childers (MS-01) this weekend announced the winner of the 2010 First District Congressional Art Competition. The winner, Brad McWhirter, is a junior at Tupelo High School. His entry, a photograph entitled "Never Out of Style," will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year beginning in June.

"With the many entries from talented young artists in the First District, the judges' selection was no easy decision. I am always proud to represent North Mississippi, but it is a special honor to witness the potential of young constituents and the great talents they possess," said Childers. "The Congressional Art Competition promotes community involvement and is a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase their artistic talents. I congratulate Brad and commend all entrants, who I encourage to participate in future competitions."

As the overall winner, McWhirter is eligible for a \$1500 per year scholarship to the Savannah College of Art and Design and will receive complimentary Southwest Airlines tickets to Washington D.C.

The 2010 First District Congressional Art Competition received a total of 90 entries. The winner was announced on Saturday, May 15, at the Gum Tree Museum of Art in Tupelo. Tina Lutz, Executive Director of the Gum Tree Museum of Art, and William Heard, an award-winning artist, judged the competition.

A pro-gun, pro-life Mississippian, Congressman Travis Childers (D-MS) represents the First Congressional District in North Mississippi. He is a member of the fiscally conservative Blue Dog Coalition and serves on the House Agriculture and Financial Services Committee.

Congressman Childers co-chairs the reestablished bipartisan Congressional Rural Caucus and was appointed to the bipartisan Second Amendment Task Force. For more information, visit <u>w</u> <u>www.childers.house.gov</u>

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